

19 SEPTEMBER 2002



Maintenance

**A-10 EXTERNAL TANK MAINTENANCE
FACILITY OPERATING INSTRUCTION**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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Certified by: 43 MXS/CC (Lt Col Schmetzer)

Pages: 5

Distribution: F

This instruction establishes procedures and defines responsibilities to ensure maintenance, inspection, storage and transportation procedures for A-10 external tanks are accomplished in a safe and professional manner. It applies to all squadrons and staff agencies within the 43d Airlift Wing. Commanders and supervisors are responsible for ensuring personnel are familiar with and comply with the provisions of this instruction. Any deviations to this instruction will be approved by the 43d Maintenance Squadron Maintenance Supervisor and the External Tank Section Chief.

- 1. Responsibilities.** The external tank section will ensure all safety precautions are strictly followed.
- 2. Location of Operation.** Open fuel tank maintenance will only be performed at the external tank storage facility or approved fuel system facility. Open fuel tank maintenance will not be performed at the external tank storage facility during inclement weather or when winds exceed 20 knots.
- 3. Safety Requirements.**
 - 3.1. External tanks will only be grounded while maintenance is being performed.
 - 3.2. Technical data will be used for all tasks.
 - 3.3. All work performed on external fuel tanks will be recorded on applicable AFTO Form 95, **Significant Historical Data**.
 - 3.4. External tank maintenance personnel will report any unsafe act or condition to their supervisor.
- 4. Aircraft Maintenance Squadron will.**
 - 4.1. Ensure tanks stored on the flight line are properly secured, capped and tagged.
 - 4.2. Notify the fuel systems repair section of tanks requiring troubleshooting prior to tank being downloaded from aircraft.

- 4.3. Deliver tanks due inspection, TCTO or repair to external tank facility within 48 hours of identification.
- 4.4. Completely defuel, drain and cap all tanks prior to delivering to external tank facility.
- 4.5. Attach a DD Form 1574, **Serviceable Tag - Materiel** if serviceable or DD Form 1577-2, **Unserviceable (Reparable) Tag Materiel** and completely filled out AFTO Form 350, **Repairable Item Processing Tag** if unserviceable.
- 4.6. Create job discrepancy using CAMS prior to unserviceable tanks being returned.
- 4.7. Provide transportation for tanks being returned or issued from the external tank facility.
- 4.8. Record name, tank serial number and date of issue in external tank facility's "Tank Sign Out/In Record Book" located in external tank repair facility office.
- 4.9. When fuel system personnel are not available to issue tanks:
 - 4.9.1. Contact MX-3 at 4-6626.
 - 4.9.2. Provide bomb lift operator.
 - 4.9.3. Remove first available tank in serviceable row from stand and place on transportation dolly.
 - 4.9.4. Secure tank to dolly with cargo strap.
 - 4.9.5. Place covers and cargo straps neatly into storage bin located under the tank maintenance overhang.

5. 43 MXS will.

- 5.1. Fuel System Repair Element will:
 - 5.1.1. Track all maintenance, TCTOs and inspections through CAMS and AFTO Form 95.
 - 5.1.2. Review monthly Time Distribution Index product received from Maintenance Analysis showing tanks coming due inspection.
 - 5.1.3. Send letter every third Wednesday of the month to each flying squadron's PS&D section with specific tank serial numbers due inspection.
 - 5.1.4. Use following procedures for tank turn-in and issue:
 - 5.1.4.1. Inspect tank prior to removing from transportation dolly.
 - 5.1.4.2. Remove tank from dolly and secure in appropriate stand.
 - 5.1.4.3. Issue the first tank in serviceable row.
- 5.2. Fabrication Flight will:
 - 5.2.1. Schedule tanks requiring corrosion treatment in coordination with external tank section chief.

6. Emergency Procedures.

- 6.1. In case of fire:

6.1.1. Notify fire department by telephone or radio through Maintenance Operations Center (MOC) and give the following information:

6.1.1.1. Location.

6.1.1.2. Casualties--if any.

6.2. Evacuate area, assemble in area across street.

6.3. Extinguish fire if possible.

7. Sequence of operations.

7.1. All hazards will be reported IAW AFI 91-202, *The US Air Force MISHAP Prevention Program* on AF Form 457, **USAF Hazard Report**.

7.2. All accidents and incidents will be reported IAW AFI 91-301, *Air Force Occupational and Environmental Safety, Fire Protection, and Health (AFOSH) Program*.

8. Transportation.

8.1. To prevent damage, all tanks will be defueled prior to loading on tank dolly.

8.2. All tanks will be transported on an approved tank dolly.

8.3. Dollies will only be towed by vehicles with pintle hooks installed at a height of no more than 18 inches.

8.4. Tanks will be secured to dolly prior to movement.

9. Distribution.

9.1. Supervisors will ensure all personnel involved in external tank maintenance read and understand thoroughly the provisions of this instruction. A copy of this instruction will be posted in the external tank repair maintenance shop.

WINFIELD W. SCOTT III, Brigadier General, USAF
Commander

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

ACCI 21-101, *Maintenance Management of Aircraft*

AFI 91-202, *The US Air Force MISHAP Prevention Program*

AFI 91-301, *Air Force Occupational and Environmental Safety, Fire Protection, and Health (AFOSH) Program*

AFOSH STANDARD 48-137, *Respiratory Protection Program*

AFOSH STANDARD 91-31, *Personal Protective Equipment*

AFOSH STANDARD 91-32, *Emergency Shower and Eyewash Units*

AFOSH STANDARD 91-38, *Hydrocarbon Fuels General*

AFOSH STANDARD 91-43, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids*

AFOSH STANDARD 91-56, *Fire Protection and Prevention*

AFOSH STANDARD 91-66, *General Industrial Operations*

T.O. 1-1-3, *Inspection and Repair of Aircraft Integral Tank and Fuel Cells*

T.O. 1A-10A-2-28JG-4, *Fuel System External Fuel System*

T.O. 1A-10A-2-28JG-4CL-1, *Fuel System External Tanks Removal, Installation and Operational Check*

6J14 Series Tech Orders, *External Fuel Tank Assembly*

16W6 Series Tech Orders, *Station 4 and 8 Pylon Assembly*

16W6 Series Tech Orders, *Station 6 Pylon Assembly*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFB—Air Force Base

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFTO—Air Force Technical Order

ACCI—Air Combat Command Instruction

AFOSH—Air Force Occupational Safety and Health

CAMS—Core Automated Maintenance System

CC—Commander

DD—Department of Defense

IAW—In Accordance With

LGMCF—Logistics Group Maintenance Accessories Fuel

MOC—Maintenance Operations Center

MX—Maintenance

MXS—Maintenance Squadron

PS&D—Plans, Scheduling and Documentation

TCTO—Time Compliance Technical Order

TO—Technical Order

USAF—United States Air Force